GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4160
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2008
DUTY ENTITLEMENT PASS BOOK SCHEME
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering extension of the exporters flagship tax refund scheme Duty Entitlement Pass Book(DEPB) Scheme for another year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has appointed an expert committee to work out a feasible alternative to the DEPB scheme which has come under the WTO scanner;

(d) if so, whether the said committee has submitted its recommendation to the Government; and

(e) if so, the time by when a final decision is likely to be taken?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) & (b): Government has extended Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPB) Scheme till 31.05.2009 at the time of announcement of Annual Supplement to Foreign Trade Policy 2008-09 on 11.04.2008;

(c) to (e): Government constituted an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Shri Anwarul Hoda to work out a feasible alternative to the DEPB Scheme. The Committee submitted its report in February, 2007. No final decision has been taken in the matter.